

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2004.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 4-7, 18-27, 29-33 and 36-39. All pending elected claims have been allowed.

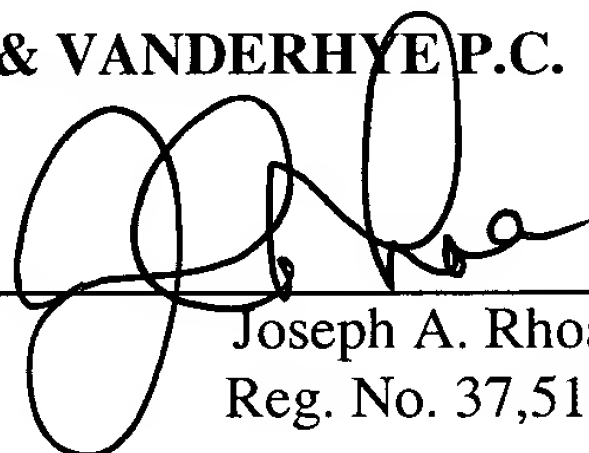
Non-elected claims 12-17, 28 and 34-35 have been canceled, without prejudice in view of the Restriction/Election Requirement. Thus, the application is now in condition for allowance.

If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: _____



Joseph A. Rhoa
Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100